



Stingray's

record (3-1 overall / 1-0 Mulholland League) **Volleyball Weekly Recap**

Weeks #3 - Wed-Sep 23rd LA Adventist / Fri-Sep 25th vs Shalhevet – rescheduled 10/28

LA Adventist – fresh off their 4th place finish in Saturday's **Liberty Christian Tournament** the **Stingrays** looked hard pressed to play any *quality* volleyball in their 1st **Mulholland League** match of the season. Perhaps it was the heat, or the early start time, or maybe **Adventist's** inability to muster any semblance of what the game should look like. The bottom line was the **Rays** played poorly Wednesday, and hopefully learned some lessons. Inferior opponents often present challenges to a better team, making it tough not to play down to their level, but we managed. The **Eagles** showed their athleticism, making a number of saves and one-over balls that surprised the **Stingrays**. But overall - they aren't schooled in the fundamentals of the game. **LA Adventist** is a basketball school, and come winter they will prove that fact once again by dominating league. Final scores vs the **Lady Eagles**... 25-19; 25-7; 25-16... **PacLu** wins 3-0.

Lately, the **Stingrays** are experimenting with a new setter in the 4-2 offense - **Hannah Klobuchar**, and a new back row hitter/defender – **Alex Tangari**. The talents of each appear better suited for their new positions and should benefit the **Rays** over the long haul. Alex has a strong arm and good overhand technique. She can score from the back row as well as the front – which she proved several times in Wednesday's match. Hannah has pretty good setting hands, and only needs to get stronger as she learns her new position. Along the front row the **Rays** middle blockers, **Taylor Pattillo** and **Chrissy Hessing**, are improving their technique and timing on the block, and working on the timing on the attack. The middle block is arguably the most difficult position on the court, and takes a lot of time to learn – much less master.

Bridgette Kielhack has quickly established herself as the **Stingrays** 'go to' player, garnering a number of compliments from opposing coaches at last weeks tournament. She has taken a variety of balls from three different setters now, and still managed to hit down balls better than 75% of the time. She has also shown improvement in communication with her setters, become more effective offensively with poor sets, and is blossoming as a team leader. And speaking of team leaders, senior setter/opposite **Anais Marin** has begun to flex her leadership skills of late in a very mature fashion, which brings a smile to coach Bareford's maturing face. Outside hitter **Cynthia Rocha** has shown she can score points from the service line AND outside too – and should become more consistent as the season progresses. Karina Tangari brings her ever ebullient personality to the court every day – and coach is pleased with her improved passing. Karina, Hannah and Chrissy continue to work on their serves, and coach is convinced they will contribute from the back line sooner rather than later. **Betsy** and **Amanda Hungate** have passed well when given opportunities, which coach will look for more often as their practice time increases. *A special thanks* to **Betsy Hungate** for unselfishly filling in as a 6th player for **South Bay Lutheran** at the **Liberty Christian Tournament**. One of their players was taken to the hospital, but is doing fine and back in school again. Nicely done Betsy!

Next Week – in a short week for the team (due to a school trip), the **Stingrays** will face **Mulholland League** favorite **Wildwood** on Wed-Sep 29th at Calvary Assembly – 3:30 start. To say this is a big game for the **Stingrays** would be an understatement – so please come out and support the girls in their first real test of the young season. We have seen what the bottom of the league looks like - now we will see the top. **Goooooo Stingrays!!!**